



LANGLEY RESEARCH CENTER

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SAFE-T-NEWS

AGENCY MAKES SAFETY A PRIORITY CONCERN

In recent weeks, the Administrator has emphasized that the NASA safety program should receive management support at all levels. It is recognized that the safety posture of the Agency is significantly better than the average for all government organizations and that our job related injury illness statistics continue to reflect our commitment to providing a safe work environment. However, safety is not a project or an experiment with a finite completion; rather it is an ongoing process that exacts discipline and requires conscious attention from each of us at all times.

In 1981, the Agency sustained a number of tragic accidents, including our own here at Langley. During the same time period the number of minor injuries and subsequent lost productivity significantly decreased. There is no doubt that all of our employees are aware of the need to not only accomplish our research mission effectively and efficiently, but also that it be done safely. There has, however, been an increase in the number of research equipment mishaps. These mishaps are costly and do affect our research capability. It is essential that we learn from each mishap and that the lessons be applied in all our endeavors.

In the past, the Langley staff has reacted in a positive way to any challenge presented. Now, as before, we must respond and demonstrate the character and capability that has been our hallmark. In the months and years ahead we must insure that the safe operation of our facilities remains of paramount concern. Langley has a number of unique research facilities which represent a national asset of immeasurable value. Let us all commit ourselves to insuring that we take the extra step to make our operations both productive and safe.

Richard H. Petersen
Deputy Director